



# THE ROLE OF PARLIAMENTARIANS IN PROTECTING THE OCEANS AND IMPLEMENTING SDG14

## Side Event to the first UN Oceans Conference



JUNE 5TH, 2017



6:15-7:30 PM, CR 7



Despite oceans being critical to human survival, there is a shocking lack of transparency and accountability in the international fishing industry, which often leads to environmental crimes and human rights violations.

Parliamentarians for Global Action (PGA), a network of approximately 1,400 member parliamentarians from 143 countries, is mobilizing its members as a crucial force to combat illegal, unregulated, and unreported (IUU) fishing. Legislators are a critical element in the global effort to achieve SDG14.

This side event will discuss the key role of parliamentarians in the national implementation of the Action Plan and the fostering of political will to protect the Oceans. Parliamentarians are democratically elected representatives of the people who can use their voice, visibility, and legislative power to bring about change. Additionally, they can pose questions to their governments, place public pressure on governments to take action, and utilize their visibility and platform to increase attention on key issues. During this side event, the panelists and participants will discuss the role of Parliamentarians in the implementation of SDG 14.



### KEYNOTE EXPERT

**MR. TONY LONG**

*Director of the Ending Illegal Fishing Project, The Pew Charitable Trusts*

### LEGISLATORS

**MS. PETRA BAYR, MP AUSTRIA**

*Chair of the Development Subcommittee, Treasurer of PGA*

**MS. MARGARETA CEDERFELT, MP, SWEDEN**

*Member of Committee on Foreign Affairs, Chair of the PGA International Council*

**MR. KULA SEGARAN, MP MALAYSIA**

*Convenor of the PGA International Law and Human Rights Programme, Member of the PGA Board*

**MR. MAMADOU LAMINE THIAM, MP SENEGAL**

*Chairman of the Parliament's Environmental Committee, Member of the PGA Board*